WASHINGTON.

Increase and Extension of Telegraph Lines.

ARGUMENTS FOR THE JONES BILL.

Debate in the Senate on Chinese Immigration.

CORNER IN CHEAP LABOR ANTICIPATED

Senator Matthews in Reply to James E. Anderson.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Peb. 14, 1879.

THE ANTI-CHINESE BILL IN THE SENATE-CRINA-MEN IN CALIFORNIA ANTICIPATING A CORNER IN CHINESE LABOR.

The debate on the Anti-Chinese bill occupied the Senate to-day, Senator Sargent being very anxious that the bill excluding these people shall be passed by the republicans of the Senate as it has been by the democrats of the House. Both parties will be ashamed of themselves by and by for this piece of rank demajoguery, but for the present they are only anxious to carry California by conciliating Kearney and the Sand Lot voters. If the anti-Chinese men believed that the Chinese were really as injurious to California as is pretended, some of them ought to introduce a bill expelling from the country and sending back to China, at the expense of the government, all who are now there. A vote on such a bill would show the small amount of sincerity there is in this political

Letters received here from San Francisco report that the Chinese in California are looking with interest for the passage of the Anti-Chinese bill, as they think it will enable them to obtain increased wages They regard Senator Sargent's movement as making

THE CAMPAIGN IN OHIO-WHERE THE REPUBLI-CANS FIND COMFORT.

The Ohio republicans are still a little uneasy about their fall campaign. They cannot so far find a good rousing issue capable of bringing out their voters They are so desperately at loggerheads on the currency question that they do not dare to make that very prominent, and they depend mainly on the probable folly of the democrats to provide them with a good sounding platform. Hence they have been greatly delighted with Senator Thurman's propoto force a repeal of the Election laws.

'We are not doing badly," said a stalwart republican to-day. "This offer to repeal the Election laws at the very time when trials under them are going on, and the fact that in the South they are ar esting and putting in jail on trivial or malicious charges in the State courts so many men who dare to appear as witnesses to election outrages in the federal courts, all this helps us. Then I notice in some of the Mississippi papers that Jeff. Davis is to be elected to the United States Senate. That would be a very big thing for us. I guess we'll pull through with the help of our democratic friends. It really looks sometimes as though Providence had created the democratic party on purpose to keep us republicans in power and help us out of all our tight places."

In fact the republicans are more hopeful than they were. They begin to see a chance to elect somebody besides General Grant next year.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1879.

FREE TELEGRAPHY-ARGUMENT OF J. C. REIFF, OF THE AMERICAN AUTOMATIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY, BEFORE THE SENATE RAILBOAD COMMITTEE IN FAVOR OF THE JONES BILL.

The Committee on Railroads of the Senate held meeting this morning to hear arguments in reference to the bill now pending before that body, authorizing railroad companies to construct and anaintain telegraph lines for commercial purposes. Mr. J. C. Reiff, in answer to an inquiry, stated he nted the American Automatic Telegraph Company, who have an interest in having the pending oill, known as the Jones bill, or some other bill passed, and then said:-

pany, who have an interest in having the pending bill, known as the Jones bill, or some other bill passed, and then said:—

Mr. Chaimana—The pending legislation needs neither apology nor defence. Senate bill 1,083 simply provides for such extension of existing law that railroad companies throughout the country, owning and controlling in the aggregate a great system of relegraph lines outside of the one great telegraph company, may be unequivocally authorized to utilize their lines for their own and the public benefit without unnecessary annoyance or litigation.

It will be remembered that the act of Congress, approved July 24, 1886, entitled "An act to aid in the construction of telegraph lines," &c., was originally intended to cover a special charter to the National Telegraph Company, but upon the eve of its passage by the Senate it was converted into a general law: hence, as the special advantages and rights to be conferred by the act were of general application so far as telegraph companies were concerned, the incentive to investment in the National Telegraph company was taken away. Had the set of 1866 been originally framed as a general law it cannot be doubted that inquiry would have been made into the status of railroads and their necessary telegraph system, so that whatever public advantage might have been served by making the law applicable to all owners of telegraphlylines, instead of limiting it to telegraph companies, would certainly and naturally have been provided tor. In other words, the technical omission of railroad companies in the net originally was an inadvertence, and yet to amend the existing law, now known as title 65 of the Revised Statutes, by simply incorporating the words "railroads," or so as to read any "railroad or telegraph company owe of the constructed."

The Chited States Supremb Count in the Pensscola Telegraph case, reported in 6 Otto, page 1, having broadly affirmed the constructed in a case raised by the Western Union Telegraph Company seeking the shelter of the graph county

concerning what Dr. Green said yesterday I desire to make a few remarks. Dr. Green took occasion fo say yesterday that saide from any contracts the Western Union had with any railroad company, as I believe they have with nearly all, no railroad company but telegraph lines, except that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company may have some, which mostly belong to the Western Union. Now I do not suppose for the mere purpose of defeating legislation before an appropriation committee an officer of a corporation like the Western Union Company will come down here to make statements that ought to be accepted, for the purpose of misleading the committee. I have had the greatest respect always for Mr. Orton. I think he generally knew what he was talking about, and I do not think he would have stated under oath what was not correct.

In the Forty-first Congress, second session, House of Representatives, I find that in report 114 of the special committee of which Hon. C. C. Washburne was chairman, page 104. Mr. William Orton, in speaking of the press contracts, stated that certain press contracts of theirs then existing contained a clause that they will not in any way encourage or support any opposition or competing telegraph company. On page 115, in regard to railread telegraph lines, Mr. Orton said:—"Probably for every mile of telegraph built by us a mile is built at the cost of the railway company."

They have special wires in some cases, and have an interest or a sort of proprietorship in the line in so far as it can be used for the convenience of the railway, and yet all of its revenues from commercial business accrue to the telegraph company."

The alletter written by the Hon. David A. Wells, December, 1872, by direction of Mr. William Orton, upon the relation of the government to the telegraph, Mr. Wells says, on page 13, in speaking of the great development of the telegraph since 1866, "that there has been expended some \$12,000,000, or which the Western Union had spent \$5,000,000, or which the Western Union had spe

questions outside of his written remarks were proounded and answered by him:-

pounded and answered by him:—

Mr. TELLKE—Do you say that any company can go to work and build a line where they choose? A. Yes, sir. The difference is, however, that the set provides for telegraph companies technically.

Q. Suppose the company is organized as the Denver Pacific Railway Telegraph Company; can such company go to work and build a line of telegraph? A. Yes, sir; the question is simply as to whether a railroad company organized as such and doing a telegraphic business for themselves has the right. There are some twelve hundred railroads in this country, each one of which could to-morrow file an act of incorporation, and there would still be doubts as to certain questions involving the right of way, &c.

act of facorporation, and there would still be doubts as to certain questions involving the right of way, &c.

Mr. Telles—They declared that any telegraph company may go over anybody's road. While I do not think this is very good law, still it is a right.

Mr. Rieff—We have spent \$500,000 in developing telegraphic improvements, which we desire to unite with the railroad companies in producing results. We had a line which we operated two years between New York and Washington, over which we sent twenty words for twenty-five cents, and undertook to make an alliance with the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company by which we hoped to establish and form a successful opposition to the Western Union Company. Circumstances made that concern very formidable. That concern was not broken down by the Western Union necessarily absorbed it. I think this act of Congress will furnish some rights about which the Western Union is only interested in raising questions. The intent of that act of 1866 was to make it of wide-spread application. It does not take any money from anybody, it does not deprive the Western Union of any right. If the Western Union controls all this property, of course, it cannot come to us by any arrangement. If the railroads have no desire to create facilities of course no harm can come to the Western Union. The contract under the act of 1866, the Western Union to the Government under the act, and that they shall not use their power to prevent telegraph facilities where they may be successfully extended.

A Colored Senator in the vice president.

A COLORED SENATOR IN THE VICE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR-PROGRESS OF AMERICAN CIVILIZA-

In the Senate to-day, during the debate on the Anti-Chinese bill, Senator Bruce, the colored Senator from Mississippi, occupied the Vice President's chair it being the first time that a colored member of this body has been called upon to preside over the de-Thurman made a vigorous speech in support of the sentiments was commented upon by a number of the Senators, who quietly discussed the progress of American civilization in the cloak rooms adjoining the Senate Chamber. It was remarked that it was an extraordinary chapter in American history that a colored Senator should preside over the Senate while one of the leading de cratic members of that body was opposing the immi-Forty-third Congress Speaker Blaine cailed Congress man Rainey, of South Carolina, to the chair, and he was the first colored Representative who occupied the Speaker's chair. While he was presiding Congressman Parker, of Missouri, now United States the necessity of making the American Indiaus citizens of this country, which suggested to the London Times the importance of Congress preserving thi event in a historical painting, as best illustrating the progress of American civilization since the rebellion.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE INVESTIGATION. to-day did not meet, and the chairman has issued summons to the members to meet on Monday when the investigation into the prevalence of pleuropneumonia among horned cattle in the United States will be commenced. The Commissioner of Agriculture sent to the committee to-day every letter, telegram and document bearing upon recent investigations of the subject. These will be printed for the information of the committee.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1879. THE MATTHEWS-ANDERSON INVESTIGATION SEN-ATOR MATTHEWS' STATEMENT BEFORE THE SE-LECT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

The select committee of the Senate, appointed a he instance of Senator Matthews, have made public the testimony of that gentleman, given several days ago. It will be recollected that the committee comenced the investigation in June last, but owing to James E. Anderson's refusal to testify they did when Senator Matthews was notified that the com mittee had received a copy of Anderson's festimony ing before the committee, who informed him they were prepared to hear anything he had to say with reference to it, the Senator said, in response to a question, that he did not deem it to be necessary for his vindication that Anderson should be compelled to attend. He was then sworn and examined, and said that with a view to enabling the committee to rightfully understand his relation to the whole subject, and also as a necessary preliminary to any statement he might have t

company, and that company practically controlled by one man.

On January 27, 1872, the Hon. James B. Beck, of Keniucky, in a very able and exhaustive argument in the House of Representatives against the postal telegraphic system, proposed to be owned, controlled and managed by the government, urged that some legislation might be necessary on the part of Congress to prevent the Western Union Telegraph Company; trom becoming an absolute monopoly by absorption of all competing companies; but he urged that the government postal system proposed was not the best means of preventing that result, as the immense telegraphic system would still be iree and beyond the control of Congress.

I believe the present bill furnishes a plan for a mound, healthy and vigorous competition which will not be absorbed, broken down or controlled by the Western Union Telegraph Company.

This bill will avoid the evils which Senster Beck anticipated. It may avoid the necessity for this government ever controlling the telegraphic provides, and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster Beck anticipated. It may avoid the necessity for this government ever controlling the telegraphic provides, and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster Beck anticipated. It may avoid the still greater objection which Senster levels and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster levels and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster levels and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster levels and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster levels and thus avoid the still greater objection which Senster levels and the same possible, and knew nothing in reference to the matter. During that time he saw anything of the sort was possible, and knew nothing in reference to the matter. During that time he saw a great many persons of both political parties, citizens of New Orleans, and, of course, at this time he was not stell that time he was not sale to say time.

He was quite sure, so far as he could be sure of any-thing of the kind, that he did not see Anderson during his stay in New Orleans. The first time he saw Anderson was on the 23d of March, 1877. He alluded to several subsequent meetings with Anderson, the latter having sought him, and he denied emphatilatter having sought him, and he denied emphatically Anderson's statements that he had made any promises to use his influence or otherwise take any steps to influence the nomination of himself or anybody else as Collector of Customs at New Orleans.

These statements were pure fabrications.

The Senator said he never heard of the so-called Sherman letter until it became a matter of public notoriety through the newspapers. In none of his interviews did Anderson in any manner hint or in any way intimate that he had been a party to or knew of any misdemeanors in respect to misrepre-senting the true result of the election. On the con-

senting the true result of the election. On the contrary, all that was said or suggested necessarily carried out the contrary meaning to his mind.

Senator Edmunds asked the question:—

I understand you to mean, then, in the statement which you have made that whatever interest you took in the affair or whatever you did or said about Anderson's getting a place or anybody eise getting a place was not under any impression that you were helping him on account of any contrivance or misdeed that he had done or knew of, but on account of his having made you believe that he had done the honest and regular work that members of all political parties who are honest feel that they have a right to do?

Mr. Matthews—That is what I mean, and that it

to do?

Mr. Matthews—That is what I mean, and that it was in his case a case of peculiar hardship on the ground of which he made the appeal to me specially, because the persons to whom he would naturally look otherwise by reason of their hostility to the administration, as he claimed, had also become hostile to him.

Senator Matthews, after denying many other statements of Anderson concerning himself, said:—
What I desire more distinctly to have understood are the reasons that actuated me in continuing the correspondence with him and continuing to manifest my interest in him after this conduct on his part toward myself, which, in respect to his despatch of June I, 1877, was insulting. My first reason was my anxiety, considering the disappointment which he had expressed in reference to the treatment he had received from others and his disappointment in not succeeding, through me, in getting what he thought he ought to have, to not give him any excuse in his own mind for believing that I had not acted in entire good faith in carrying out the original expressions of my desire, communicated to him in my first conversation, to do something for him. I had said that to him under the circumstances which I have stated. I excused his own conduct toward myself as, perhaps, natural to a man who had an intense desire to accomplish his object; who, perhaps, was very needy, as I supposed he was, and who might suppose that I, like others whom he had charged, was only giving him words of promise without seeking to do any-shing to make them good, and I was anxious and sensitive that he should have no excuse to charge me with any bad faith.

My other reason was my desire that the papers which were in my custody under the circumstances which I have stated, meaning by "the papers," the Nash agreement and the Anderson-Weber agreement, should not be made public. I confess that I thought it was best that they should not be. I saw no reseon for making them public in reference to any public interest involved. I did not believe it would do any good. I could not imagine any good that they would subserve with my opinion as to their character, and I did believe that they find he propagating and, to some extent, confirming in the the popular mind a belief in what I believed to be a false and injurious scandal in reference to the whole matter to which the

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL BEFORE THE

SENATE COMMITTEE. The sub-committee of the Senate Co. Appropriations (Messrs. Blaine, Allison and Withers), appointed to consider the Army Appropriation bill, will endeavor to have it ready to report to the full committee by Monday. The general impression seems to be that the committee will strike from the bill the reorganization sections adopted by the House, and either insert as a substitute the "Hewitt reorganization plan" (which formed part of the bill when reported from the House Committee on Appropriations) or wholly omit any new legislation on the subject.

THE PAYMENT OF ARREARS OF PENSIONS. The House Committee on Appropriations to-day considered questions arising out of the act for the payment of arrears of pensions. The Commissioner of Pensions has suggested changes in the law, saying that it is difficult of construction, and recommending that provision be made for a proper grading of pensions, by which \$10,000,000 can be saved. He also asks for an addition of clerical force. Representatives Sparks, Clymer and Hale were appointed a sub-committee to prepare the required legislation on the subject. It was the unanimous sentiment of the committee that they had nothing to do with the devising of measures for the payment of the pensions, as that duty devolved on the Committee on Ways and Means.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS. SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1879. redentials of Benjamin F. Jonas, elected United States Senator from the State of Louisiana for six years, from March 4, 1879; also the credentials of James B. Groome, elected United States Senator from the State of Maryland for six years, from March

4, 1879. Read and placed on file.

Mr. Ranson, (dem.) of N. C., presented the credentials of Z. B. Vance, elected Senator from North Carolina for six years, from March 4, 1879. Read and placed on file.

The Senate resumed the consideration of unfin ished business, being the bill to restrict the immigration of Chinese into the United States, and was sidressed by Mr. BLAINE in favor of the measure. Mr. SARGENT, (rep.) of Cal., and Mr. THURMAN, of

Ohio, also advocated the passage of the bill. Mr. Marrhews, (rep.) of Ohio, submitted the fol-

lowing as a substitute for the House bill :lowing as a substitute for the House bill:—

That the President of the United States is hereby requested, as promptly as in his judgment would be expedient, to give notice to the Emperor of China that the existing treaty stipulations regulating the emigration of subjects of the Chinese Empire to this country and the practice of emigration which has resulted therefrom are not satisfactory to this government, and to request such modifications thereof as will, in his opinion, limit or prevent the evils resulting therefrom; and that unless the Emperor of China shalf assent to such modifications by this negotiation of a new treaty to be submitted to the Senate for its ratification, on or before the 1st day of January. A. D. 1890, the President is hereby authorized and requested then further to notify the Emperor of China that his government abrogates the existing treaty from and after the 1st day of July theresafter.

AMENDMENTS AGREED TO.

Mr. Sargent submitted soveral amendments to the

Mr. Sangent submitted several amendments to the bill of a verbal character, and they were agreed to. He also submitted an amendment as an additional section, providing that the act shall not apply to persons officially connected with the Chinese government, or any embassy thereof, or to persons rescued

ment, or any embassy thereof, or to persons rescued from shipwreck during the voyage of and by the vessel bringing the same within the jurisdiction of the United States. Agreed to.

Also an amendment directing the President of the United States, immediately upon the approval of the sot, to give notice to the government of China of the labrogation of articles 5 and 6 of the additional articles of the treaty of June 18, 1858, between the United States and China, proclaimed February 5, 1870, commonly called the Burlingame Treaty. Agreed to.

Mr. Hoan, (rep.) of Mass., at six P. M., moved to seljourn.

adjourn.
Mr. Sargent, of California, hoped not, and urged the Senate to remain in session and dispose of this matter.
Mr. Window, (rep.) of Minn., gave notice that he would insist upon the appropriations bills to-mor-

would insist upon the appropriate and the Senate, by a rising vote of yeas 14, nays 31, refused to adjourn.

MR. CONKLING'S AMENDMENT.

Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., submitted the following as a substitute for the amendment of Mr. Matthews:—

lowing as a substitute for the amendment of Mr. Matthews:—
That the President of the United States is hereby requested immediately to give notice to the Emperor of China that so much of the existing treaty between the United States and China as permits it on the United States and China as permits it of the Chines that so much of the existing treaty between the United States and China as permits it of the United States and China as permits the migration on this country is unsatisfactory to the government of the United States and in its judemont permicious, among the existing the country of the modifications of said treaty as will correct the evidence and in the modifications to be made the evidence of the United States on or before the last day of January, 1880. Should the government of China refuse or unit to acros, by change of the existing treaty to such modification as aforesaid, then the President of the United States is further requested and he is authorized to inform the Emperor of China that the United States will proceed by laws of its own to regulate or prevent the omigration or importation to its shores of subjects of China, and after the 18st of January, 1880, to treat the obnexious stipulations as at an end.

Mr. Matthiwys withdrew his amendment and that of Mr. Conkling was in order.

Mr. Samakar, of California, hoped the amendment of the Senstor from New York would be voted down. It was simply a promise to do something hereafter.

Mr. CONKLING said he was sorry to hear his friend from California appeal to friends of the bill to vote down this amendment; sorry to hear his friend from California papeal to friends of the bill to vote down this amendment; sorry to hear him call it a more promise, effecting nothing. The migration of Chinese to our shores did not begin with the treaty; it began before the treaty and would proceed after the abrogation of the littaty. His explained the abrogation of the littaty.

a nation provided with means to conquor. There were Senstors who felt that the bill before the Senate was excessive, abrupt, unwarranted. These Senators argued according to the manners prevalent in civilized nations. There were methods known by which there should be initiated transactions such as this. He sympathized with the people of the Pacific coast, and said he felt the evils of Chinese emigration more than any one else on account of their contact with it. He (Mr. Coukling) was as eager as any Senator from California, Oregon or Nevada to do that permitted by civilized usages between nationalities to accomplish the whole purpose. He had understood that negotiations were pending which, instead of indicating that the government of China was opposed to any change in the treaty, indicated just the reverse. There were many Senators who did not understand that we had been met with any refusal on the part of China to change the treaty. Mr. THUMMAN, (dem.) of Ohio, opposed the amendment of Mr. Conkling, and said it went upon the idea that it would be a rude and offensive mode for the Senate to terminate a treaty by the passing of the proposed bill. The proposition of the Senator from New York was far more offensive to the Chinese government than the pending bill.

Mr. Earon, (dem.) of Conn., also opposed the amendment of Mr. Conkling, and said the whole sum and substance of it was that it said to the Emperor of China:—"We won't abrogate the treaty to-night, but we will six months hence." It was an absolute, downright threat, and a threat was worse than a blow. He (Mr. Eaton) failed to see the amendment in any other light than as an insuit to the Emperor of China.

Mr. Beck, (dem) of Ky., said no greater calamity could betail a nation than to have this horde of

blow. He (Mr. Eston) failed to see the amendment in any other light than as an insuit to the Emperor of China.

Mr. Erck, (dem) of Ky., said no greater calamity could betail a nation than to have this horde of Chinamen coming here and degrading our people.

Mr. Bruck, (rep.) of Miss., said representing as he did a people who but a few years ago were disqualified for citizenship and who were now struggling to advance themselves he would vote against the pending bill.

Mr. Hamin, of Me., opposed the bill, and said he would not be driven to an expression of his opinion at this late hour. He entered his protest against this kind of legislation—to cater to your Denis Kearney and your unnaturalized Englishman. This was only a counterpart of that wild craze that ran over this land a few years ago known as native Americanism. Where would this thing stop? Next it would attack theology and the Catholic would be told he could not come here. No one could say where it would end.

Mr. Howe, (rep.) of Wis., thought it needless discourtesy to drive this question to a final vote without giving the Senator from Maine time to express his opinion in this matter, as he was chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. He (Mr. Howe) suggested that by unanimous consent it be understood that the debate on this quastion be adjourned over until to-morrow, and that the vote be taken at two o'clock P. M.

Mr. Sangent argued that the Senator from Maine (Mr. Hamlin) had not any responsibility of the bill. He simply reported it back without recommendation. He (Mr. Sargent) begged the Senate to finish this matter to night.

Mr. Gondon, (dem.) of Ga., appealed to the Senate to allow the Senator from Maine (Mr. Hamlin) an opportunity to address the Senate to-morrow.

Pending discussion, at forty minutes past eight P. M., the Senate on motion of Mr. Conkling, of New York, adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1879. nittee on the state of the law relating to the election of President had last session reported a constitutional amendment in regard thereto. It was evident that no action would be taken on it this session, and he sked leave for gentlemen to print any remarks they might desire to make in relation to that amendment. The SPEAKER proceeded to call committees for re-

ports of a private nature. Mr. Brace, (dem.) of Wis., from the Committee on

Military Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the President to appoint James Shields, of Missouri, as a origadier general on the retired list, such appointment to be in lieu of the pension which he now re-

and although appealed to to withdraw his point by Messrs. Bragg, of Wisconsin; Cox, of New York;

Messrs. Bragg, of Wisconsin; Cox, of New York; Frankin, of Missouri, and Butler, of Massachusetts he refused to do so.

A great deal of confusion was occasioned by Mr. Frankin coming over to the republican side of the hall and charging the republicans with not having been in earnest last year in their efforts for the appointment of General Shields as doorkeeper.

To this Mr. Whirz replied that the democrats were welcome to make all the party capital they wanted out of his action. He was willing to take the responsibility that a member of Congress should take for doing his duty.

The confusion was so great that Mr. Baidons, (dem.) of Pa., was led to inquire whether this was a county town meeting or the United States House of Representatives.

whole.

At twenty minutes past twelve P. M. the House went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Mills, of Texas, in the chair) on the private calendar.

An hour and a half was consumed in the discussion of a private bill authorizing the Court of Claims to reopen and review a former decision of that Court in favor of Albert Grant, of Washington.

Finally Mr. Eora, (dem.) of Ill., moved that the bill be reported back with a recommendation that it be laid on the table. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 89 to 63.

vote of 89 to 63.

Then came up one of the "War Claim" bills—a bill to pay John T. Armstrong, of Virginia, \$1.840, for the rent of a wharf in Alexandria during the war.

Then came up one of the "war Claim" bills—a bill to pay John T. Armstrong, of Virginia, \$1,840, for the rent of a wharf in Alexandria during the war.

The usual debate, participated in by the usual persons followed, General Butler making a long speech in opposition to the bill. The Southern members who spoke opposed this and all other war claims, and Mr. Alken, of South Carolina, said no man who was loyal to the Confederacy ever had or over would present any such claim.

PENSIONING OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS.

Mr. KEHFER, trep.) of Ohio, criticised Mr. Butler's speech, and citing the part of it in relation to pensioning Confederate soldiers asked whether he understood him correctly.

Mr. BUTLER—I repeat that whenever the question of the depletion of the Treasury by these war claims is over, I think that the pity, the humanity of the North will take care of the maimed men of the war; and (if you wish to know it) I see no more reason why a Confederate soldier, maimed and crippled in the honest discharge of what he believed to be his duty, should not be pensioned, than why a Confederate general who honestly believed he was doing his duty should be put into a republican Cabinet (general applause and clapping of hands on the the democratic side).

Mr. Khiffer remarked that the fair inference from what Mr. Butler had said was that he was was in favor of putting Confederates into the Cabinet.

Mr. BUTLER—I have not said that I was in favor of it, nor do I think that the country has yet come up to it; but when we have withdrawn all causes of difference nobedy from the North will object to a Confederate being in the Cabinet any more than from humanity to pension Confederate soldiers.

Mr. Keiffer, of Ohio—Thon the gentleman undertakes to say (at least that is the fair inference; that the present administration is only a step in advance of him? He has not yet yet come to the time when he is in favor of putting Confederate soldiers?

Mr. Butler—Not yet; but the gensiennan thinks he is very nearly there—he is "almost persuade

only.

EVENING SESSION.

During the evening session a variety of speeches were made upon as many different subjects, among them one by Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, on the financial question, a large part of which was devoted to the exposure and demolition of the doctrines and policy of Mr. Hugh McCullough and the contractionists.

The House, at half-past ten P. M., adjourned. TESTING COINS.

REPORT FROM THE PHILADELPHIA MINT-LIGHT GOLD EAGLES-SILVER DOLLARS. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Fob. 14, 1879.

The annual assay at the Mint, which closed yesterlay, proves quite satisfactory to the Commissioners. The number of coins this year to be tested has been greater than ever before, owing to the passage of the silver bill. The Commissioners examined coins as

follows:—

From the Philadelphia Mint, \$5,984 67, in silver; \$413,812 50, in gold. San Francisco Mint, \$46,995 50, in silver; \$36,392 50, in gold. Carson City Mint, \$1,313, in silver, \$370, in gold. Carson City Mint, \$1,313, in silver, \$370, in gold. Carson City Mint, \$1,313, in silver, \$370, in gold. Carson City Mint, \$1,313, in silver, \$370, in gold. Carson City Mint, age weighed was .004 light; in eagles the variation was .0025, and in dollars, .005—all being light. The average variation from the standard was less than one one-hundredth of the allowance. The trade dollar was correct, but the standard dollar was a quarter of a hundredth part over. The extreme variation from the standard in gold coins was in the 8an Francisco double eagle, it being .007 light, and from the same mint the dollars were .0325 heavy. The half dollars of the Philadelphia Mint showed the least variation, were .032 heavy. The half cagles were .071 light and the three dollar pieces .024 light. The greatest variation in gold coins was found in those from San Francisco, which were .152 light. Those from Carson were .131 light. The variation in half eagles was but .006 light from these mints, and they were ahead of Philadelphia in these coins.

KILLED BY GIANT POWDER.

KILLED BY GIANT POWDER.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Feb. 14, 1879. A special despatch says by the explosion of a quantity of giant powder, which was being thawed out at the Champion mines at Ontonagon, Mich., yesterday, Samuel Bennett and John Rudder were instantly Rilled, and a man named Daniels and an-other called "Grasy Joo" seriously injured.

DR. HEPWORTH'S FAREWELL.

THE PASTOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE DIS CIPLES TAKES AN AFFECTING LEAVE OF HIS PARISHIONERS-REV. WILLIAM R. DAVIS HIS

SUCCESSOR. In response to a call for a general meeting of the congregation of Dr. Hepworth's church the chapel in the basement of the edifice was last evening filled to its utmost capacity by a large assemblage, attracted thither by the announcement that business of importance was to be transacted. Punctually at eight o'clock the pastor called the meeting to order, the exercises being opened by the singing of the 121-122d Psalm, after which the hymn 'I need Theo

every hour" was sung.
Dr. Hepworth then offered a fervent prayer, after which, the congregation having joined in chanting, "What a friend we have in Jeaus," the reverend gentleman announced the object of their being brought together. The clerk then read the following letter of resignation:—

tleman announced the object of their being brought together. The clerk then read the following letter of resignation —

Mil. HELWORTH'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION.

TO THE MADISON AVENUE CHURCH STORE, Feb. 14, 1879.

Dear BRETHERN-I floud myself impelled by a sone of justice to myself and of duty toward you to take a step of the utmost importance at this juncture in our own history. However dear may be the ties between pastor and people, they ought, under no circumstances, to street the residual in the system of the progression of the time arrives when the pastor is convinced that his best work has been done among his people and that to continue will make such drafts on his health as to endanger his future usefulness he ought to face the fact at the earliest moment, and be willing, the church into the hands of some one who is younger and more able to achieve the object which all have at heart. This has always been my theory, and I should lose my respect for myself if I failed to practice what I have so frequently advocated. That I should feel over burdened may seem strange to some of you who have only our past will show that there is a good reason why my words should be true. Have given to this church some of the best years of my life, and in surrendering his work to another I am performing a solemn and very said duty. At the same time I have the satisfaction that our darkest days are over, that our future is brighter than it has earlied the same of t

the fellowship of Christ. GEORGE H. HEPWORTH.

Mr. F. T. Hopkins being requested to take the chair pending the question of the pastor's resignation compiled. A motion was then made to the effect that the resignation of Dr. Hepworth be accepted, which being put by the chairman was carried by a unanimous standing vote. Dr. J. W. Ranney then offered a set of resolutions deploring the circumstances which rendered necessary a separation from their beloved pastor, expressing their gratitude for the ardent zeal and self-sacrificing spirit manifested by him in the performance of his ardnows duties, and especially commending him to any field of labor to which he might in the future be called. The resolution was adopted unanimously. Dr. arduous duties, and especially commending him to any field of labor to which he might in the future be called. The resolution was adopted unanimously. Dr. Hopworth them arose and addressed his parishiomers, informing them that he had no particular plans for the future, but that he must of necessity have the rest which he had been seeking. After assuring them that in going out from the Church he was acting in the interest of Him in whom he placed all confidence, he concluded his remarks with a fervent "God bless you." Dr. Itanney then explained the action taken by the committee appointed to select a successor, and announced that they had unanimously agreed to extend a call to the Rev. William R. Davis, the present pastor of the St. James' Methodist Episcopal Church, Madison avenue, corner of 126th street.

The reverend gentleman in question had been educated at the Dickerson College, Maryland, had been pastor of the Independent Methodist Church in Baltimore for three years, subsequently served three years in charge of the Simpson Church, Erocklyn, and was finally called to the care of the church in Harlem, where he now is. The incumbent is a young man, very energetic and considered a very able preacher. The report was adopted and a committee appointed to wait on the Rev. W. R. Davis and extend him a call. The leave taking between the pastor and his parishioners was very affecting.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

OBSERVANCE OF THE LUPERCALIA YESTERDAY-A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN VALENTINES.

St. Valentine's Day has come and gone, and with it will disappear the only hideous display of the year in the shop windows—that of the cheap prints intended to be sent anonymously to people who can be quizzed or annoyed by them. Fhe burlesque verses of former years were not so general this sea-son, but in their place were male and female caricaflirt," and with other insulting phrases. Thousands these rude pictures were sent the Post Office yesterday and on the preceding days, and the poor letter carriers
were loaded down with these unwelcome, insulting
missives. In many instances, however, the messages
took a sentimental turn, and hearts traissixed with
darts and Oupid fittering above were the usual form
for the expression of the grande passion. But such is
the degeneracy of modern chivalry that the most
noteworthy difference between St. Valentine's Day
and other days is seen in the enormous increase in
the delivery of letters through the Post Office.

At no remote period the day was devoted to the interchange of social compliments among the young
people, and if any letters were despatched on that day
they contained only a courteous expression of attachment, the sentiment of the day being charmingly
verified in the following lines of the poet Drayton:

Muse, bid the mera awake;

Muse, bid the morn awake; Sad winter now declines. Each bird doth choose a mate-Tide day's St. Valentine's. For that good bishop's sake tier up and let us see What beauty it shall be That fortune us assigus.

That fortune as assigns.

In contrast with the pretty customs of the past—
a vestige of the Lapercalis of ancient Rome—the
modern observance of the day even in its best form
is unworthy. Probably as many as fifty thousand
valentines passed through the local Post Office up
to twelve o'clock last night. A great increase in light packages, evidently fancy
valentines in boxes, was noticed by the
Post Office authorities yesterday, and the District messenger boys were also very busy delivering parcels
containing something too fragile and valuable to be
committed to the mails. In some quarters the opintion was expressed yesterday that the taste for offensive valentines was dying out, and the rich, fancy
boxes in the stationers' windows and the care that
was evinced for the safe delivery of the packages were
some evidence that a new "love token" era had
dawned which will make

This day more cheerfully than ever shine— This day, which might inflame thyself, old Valentine.

ST. VALENTINE'S KETTLEDRUM.

A lively rally was beaten last night at Ferrero's Assembly Rooms on St. Valentine's kettledrum. The taps were given in aid of the Samaritan Home for the Aged, and in response there was a very large at-tendance of young people who were anxious to hear tendance of young people who were anxious to hear from St. Valentine, and of old ones who had acknowledged his influence in pist years. Thea seembly rooms were tastefully fitted up for the occasion. In the large hall the floor was cleared for dancing and a spiendid floral display, ranged on stands around the room, presided over by creatures not less lovely than the roses which they sold, invited the gallants and their partners to speak the prompting of their hearts in the delicate language of flowers. Among the ladies present were noticed Mrs. and Miss McVicar, Mrs. Henry A. Stuythe, Mrs. James J. Higginson, Mrs. Hurry, Mrs. Richard Irvin, Jr., Mrs. De Forest, Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Benkard. Besides dancing, the other amusements were an exhibition of the "Figural Lyceum" and the Judy.

A LADY GARROTED.

Mrs. De Bary Robbed on Fifth Avenue in the Daylight.

APATHETIC BYSTANDERS

Escape of the Highwaymen with the Victim's Diamond Earring.

A scene occurred about five o'clock last evening on

that conservative and fashionable thoroughfare, Fifth avenue, which, for boldness and audacity, has

Fifth avenue, which, for boldness and audacity, has seldom been paralleled even in the purieus of the city. A lady attacked and despoiled of her diamond carrings by a highway robber in presence of a crowd of promenaders compares favorably with the exploits of Neapolitan brigands. Mrs. De Bary, wife of Adolph De Bary, of the firm of Frederick De Bary & Co., importers, No. 43 Warren street, and a lady friend, Miss Annie Swan, left Mrs. De Bary's house, No. 15 West Fifty-second street, shortly before five o clock last evening. The ladies were bent on a quiet prom-enade. They were dressed elegantly, but there was nothing in their attire to render them conspicuous from hundreds of ladies who frequent Fifth avenue at all hours of the day. Mrs. De Bary, is low sized and good looking, has a petit figure and is about thirty years of age. She was attired in a seal skin sacque and black silk dress and wore diamond carrings. Her companion, Miss Annie Swan, is a lady of larger stature and more commanding appearance, Her totlet was equally luxurious as that of Mrs. De Bary. They moved down Fifth avenue chatting pleasantly. Their attention was attracted by seeing rizing them from the opposite side of the avenue. They paid little attention to his importinence as they thought he might possibly be a casual acquaintance whom they had forgotten and who was endeavoring to gain their recognition. He was dressed after the fashion of most young men who frequent Fifth avenue at that hour of the evening. He was good looking, and had the appearance of respectability. He continued his importunities by seemingly trying to attract the attention of the ladies for several blocks. Occasionally he would raise his hat, apparently to some passing acquaintance, and thereby generally impressed himself on those who bestowed a passing glance It his actions, as a young man who courted attention and wished to be recognized. When the ladies had advanced as far as Forty-fourth street, the young man was noticed to cross the avenue diagonally, as if determined to head them off. He changed his course, however, and allowed the ladies to walk ahead of him, he following

head them off. He changed his course, however, and allowed the ladies to walk ahead of him, he following at a convenient distance.

ATTACKED IN THE CROWD.

By this time Mrs. De Bary and Miss Swan had lost all recollection of the young man who had previously attracted their attention on the other side of the street. Throngs of people were on the avenue, going in both directions, and the side of the street. Throngs of people were on the avenue, going in both directions, and the side of the street (the west) on which they were promenading was particularly crowded. Without a sign or warning of their danger the ladies found that they were at the mercy of a desperado. The well dressed young man had followed quickly after them, and when at the corner of Forty-third street and Fifth avenue, he threw his arm about Mrs. De Bary's neck. Before she had time to raise an alarm he had his left arm coiled about her throat, her head shrown back spon his shoulder, and with the other hand he tugge, at the large diamond earrings, tore the right one from its position, and partially displaced the other. This movement was so sudden and so rapid that Miss Swan did not have time to interfere. Her alarm was so intense that she stood rooted to the spot. At the same moment the avenue was so crowded that people jostled each other passing by. Scores of pedestrians, men and women, witnessed the outrage, but not one interfered to protect the lady or apprehend the highwayman. In a second the desperate freebooter had thrown his victim aside and dashed through the crowd of inactive spectators. Then it was that Miss Swan experienced returning animation and the panic stricken lookers on became particularly officious. Miss Swan made the block resound with her appeal to the police particularly and the neighbors generally to stop that rescally their, but the latter continued on his course rejoicing.

An Inserventive Purseur.

Stimulated by the despairing appeals of Miss Swan to apprehend the criminal, several of the most agile young men present set off on a lively double quick. Impressed with the knowledge that the fugitive had disappeared around the block and was not likely to await the approach of his pursuers to take him into enstody, they redoubled their speed. There was an exhibition of some very active short distance running and a display of development of lung power indulged in, that excited the admiration and alarm of a numerous class of citizens who were unsequanted with the nature of the unusual excitement. The well dressed young man made excellent time, and spel along Forty-third street to Vanderbilt sweme and thence to the point of the Grand Central depot, on Forty-second street, where he was seen to enter a coach and was rapidly driven sway.

In the meantime Mrs. De Bery, fightened almost to death, had to be supported excellent time, and self-to death, had to be supported excellent and used that forcible grip around her need the substitution of the professional gardeoud not realize the gravity of the output of the contract of the contract of the contract sharp, stinging pain caused her to the hand to the side of her head, when she discovered that one of her diamond carrings was missing. The other—the left—remained, but was partially torn from its position, and both her cars bled profusely. It was also subsequently ascertained that a large and valuable brooch which the lady wore at her neck was broken loose and the fastenings twisted apart. Her bomet was crushed on her head and her sealskin secque torn open.

The outrage collected a crowd of people, and every third street, the seene of the garding, was wedged with a curious multitude. Miss Swan, having by this time regained her presence of mind, despatched a messenger for a cab, and by that means conveyed Mrs. De Bary to her residence. Once there the lady gave way to her suppressed excitement and became hysterical. A physician was summoned, and by a judicious system of t

BOTH LEGS CUT OFF.

Charles Henry, twenty years old, residing at 186 Mechanic street, Patterson, N. J., had both legs taken off at Passaic, soon after noon yesterday, by falling between the cars of an Eric train. Ho thought the train was leaving, instead of which it was just slowing up at the station; he jumped and missed his footing and the wheels cut off both legs. There is little hope of his recovery.

MR. ERHARDT WILL EXPLAIN.

Mayor Cooper's request to Police Commission Erhardt, contained in his communication of the 13th inst., has elicited the following short reply:-

No. 300 MULANIAN STRIKE, Feb. 14, 1870.

Hon. EDWARD COOPER, MAyor: STRIKE, Feb. 14, 1870.

Size—I shall call at your office pursuant to your request to-morrow atternoor, and give you such further intermation regarding the Police Department as may be possime, apart from an inspection of the records, which, of course, can only be made here.

JOEL B. ERHARDI.